

## CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A system for recording at least one message associated with a  
2 prepaid telephone calling card, comprising:

3 a data storage system for storing data corresponding to the  
4 prepaid telephone calling card and the related to a service  
5 associated with the prepaid telephone calling card; and

6 a prepaid telephone calling card processing system  
7 coupled to said data storage system and configured to receive a  
8 request to record the message during a service setup call over a  
9 telephone network and to cause the message to be recorded  
10 during said setup call.

1 2. The system according to claim 1, wherein said data storage  
2 system and said prepaid calling card processing system are  
3 remotely located.

1 3. The system according to claim 1, wherein said data  
2 corresponding to the prepaid telephone calling card includes a  
3 quantity corresponding to a number of service units available  
4 to be used to make at least one call in relation to the prepaid  
5 telephone calling card.

1 4. The system according to claim 3, wherein said service units  
2 correspond to telephone call service minutes.

2  
1 10. The method according to claim 9, wherein said data  
2 corresponding to the prepaid telephone calling card includes a  
3 quantity corresponding to a number of service units available  
4 to be used to make at least one call in relation to the prepaid  
5 telephone calling card.

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1 11. The method according to claim 10, wherein said service units  
2 correspond to telephone call service minutes.

1 12. The method according to claim 9, wherein said causing step  
2 further comprises the step of recording the message in  
3 accordance with a card identifier corresponding to the prepaid  
4 telephone calling card.

1 13. The method according to claim 9, wherein the message stored  
2 during said causing step is to be played back automatically  
3 during an access call related to the prepaid telephone calling  
4 card.

1 14. A method of using a prepaid telephone calling card,  
2 comprising the steps of:

3 accessing the prepaid telephone calling card processing  
4 system during a prepaid telephone calling card service setup call  
5 via a telephone network;

6 entering a card identifier corresponding to data  
7 addressable by said prepaid telephone calling card processing  
8 system; and

9 recording at least one message during said service setup  
10 call, said message being addressable by said prepaid telephone  
11 calling card processing system during a subsequent telephone  
12 service access call.

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1 5. The system according to claim 1, wherein said prepaid  
2 telephone calling card processing system causes the message  
3 to be recorded within said data storage system in accordance  
4 with a card identifier corresponding to the prepaid telephone  
5 calling card.

1 6. The system according to claim 1, further comprising a voice  
2 data storage facility coupled to said prepaid telephone calling  
3 card processing system and to said data storage system, and  
4 operative to store the message based on a card identifier  
5 corresponding to the prepaid telephone calling card.

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1 7. The system according to claim 1, further comprising a voice  
2 response system coupled to said prepaid calling card  
3 processing system and configured to prompt a caller to record  
4 the message via at least one voice prompt during said service  
5 setup call over said telephone network.

1 8. The system according to claim 1, wherein the message is to  
2 be played back via said prepaid telephone calling processing  
3 system during an access call related to the prepaid telephone  
4 calling card, said access call made in accordance with the use  
5 of the prepaid telephone calling card.

1 9. A method for recording at least one message associated with  
2 a prepaid telephone calling card, comprising the steps of:

3 storing data corresponding to the prepaid telephone calling  
4 card and the message;

5 receiving a request to record the message during a service  
6 setup call over a telephone network; and

7 causing the message to be recorded during said service  
8 setup call and the message to be played back during an access  
9 call related to use of the prepaid telephone calling card.

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1 15. The method according to claim 14, wherein said message is  
2 stored in a data storage system in accordance with said card  
3 identifier.

1 16. The method according to claim 14, wherein said telephone  
2 network is the publicly switched telephone network (PSTN).

1 17. A system for facilitating the use of a prepaid telephone calling  
2 card, comprising:

3 a data storage system storing data corresponding to the  
4 prepaid telephone calling card and to at least one message  
5 related to the prepaid telephone calling card; and

6 a prepaid telephone calling card processing system  
7 coupled to said data storage system and configured to receive a  
8 request to play said message stored in relation to the prepaid  
9 telephone calling card during an access call over a telephone  
10 network and to cause said message to be played during said  
11 access call.

1 18. The system according to claim 17, wherein said data storage  
2 system and said prepaid calling card processing system are  
3 remotely located.

1 19. The system according to claim 17, wherein said data  
2 corresponding to the prepaid telephone calling card includes a  
3 quantity corresponding to a number of service units available  
4 to be used to make at least one call in relation to the prepaid  
5 telephone calling card.

1 20. The system according to claim 19, wherein said at least one  
2 call is a long distance telephone call.

1 21. The system according to claim 19, wherein said service units  
2 correspond to telephone call service minutes.

1 22. The system according to claim 17, wherein said prepaid  
2 telephone calling card processing system causes said  
3 message to be played back in accordance with a card  
4 identifier corresponding to the prepaid telephone calling card.

1 23. The system according to claim 17, further comprising a voice  
2 data storage facility coupled to said prepaid telephone calling  
3 card processing system and to said data storage system, and  
4 operative to allow said message to be played back in  
5 accordance with a card identifier corresponding to the prepaid  
6 telephone calling card.

1 24. The system according to claim 17, further comprising a voice  
2 response system coupled to the prepaid calling card  
3 processing system and configured to prompt a caller with at  
4 least one voice prompt related to the automatic playback of  
5 said message during said access call.

1 25. A method for facilitating the use of a prepaid telephone calling  
2 card, comprising the steps of:

3 storing data corresponding to the prepaid telephone calling  
4 card and to at least one message related to the prepaid telephone  
5 calling card;

6 receiving a request to automatically play said message  
7 stored in relation to the prepaid telephone calling card during an  
8 access call over a telephone network; and

9 causing said message to be played during said access call.

1 26. The method according to claim 25, wherein said data  
2 corresponding to the prepaid telephone calling card includes a  
3 quantity corresponding to a number of service units available  
4 to be used to make an outbound call.

1 27. The method according to claim 25, wherein said causing step  
2 causes said message to be played back in accordance with a  
3 card identifier corresponding to the prepaid telephone calling  
4 card.

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